

CLAIM LISTING

Applicants request that, pursuant to this amendment, the following listing of claims replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for managing distributed multimodal interactions comprising the steps of:

registering a plurality of distributed modality components with a modality component server, wherein each modality component handles an interface modality for an application, wherein each modality component places a set of activation conditions in a shared memory area of the modality component server, wherein the set of activation conditions defines how the modality component is activated, and how input and output between the modality component and a client device is started and stopped, wherein the modality component is activated whenever one of the set of activation conditions are detected, and wherein activation conditions is added or removed by an application module;

initiating a multimodal application from a client device, the multimodal application submitting activation conditions for modality components it supports to a multimodal engine of the modality component server;

matching the activation conditions submitted by the multimodal application with activation conditions stored in the shared memory area by an inference engine of the modality component server;

activating a modality component by a modality activator of the modality component server when one of the set of activation conditions for said modality component is satisfied;

connecting said activated modality component to said client device;

conveying a user interaction from the client device to the activated modality component for processing; and

disconnecting the activated modality component from the client device and deactivating the modality component by the modality activator upon completion of an interaction response.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, said method further comprising the step of:

placing results from said user interaction onto a shared memory area of said modality component server.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one operation of the modality component is fired when one of said activation conditions is detected.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of modality components is remotely located from said client device.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said client device lacks available resources to locally execute at least one function that is handled by the remotely located modality component.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein at least one of said plurality of modality components is disposed within said client device.

7. – 10. (Cancelled)

12-18. (Cancelled)